

We tried to balance the film industry's need for certainty with the Interior's need for flexibility, and I think we have struck that balance. The film industry wants a certainty. They do not want an arbitrary kind of thing where they never know. And, in fact, if there is an arbitrary approach to it, more and more they will go offshore somewhere. They will go to Australia. They will go other places. There are other pretty places in the world they can go to film movies. They will go somewhere else to do it if they do not have a degree of certainty.

I will not pretend this bill is a cure-all for all of our public land needs but it is a start. It will help. It is an equity thing. Even the film industry thinks that it should pay a reasonable fee for using the public lands.

So this is one of those rare bills where I think everyone has the chance to come out a winner and, therefore, I urge its adoption. I do not believe there is any objection to this. I think we have worked out the kinks and I think it will work very well for us. Again, I would repeat, Mr. Speaker, I urge its adoption.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2993, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2933, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

SALE, LEASE OR EXCHANGE OF IDAHO SCHOOL LAND

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4166) to amend the Idaho Admission Act regarding the sale or lease of school land.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4166

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF IDAHO SCHOOL LAND.

The Act of July 3, 1890 (commonly known as the "Idaho Admission Act") (26 Stat. 215,

chapter 656), is amended by striking section 5 and inserting the following:

"SEC. 5. SALE, LEASE, OR EXCHANGE OF SCHOOL LAND.

"(a) SALE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), all land granted under this Act for educational purposes shall be sold only at public sale.

"(2) USE OF PROCEEDS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Proceeds of the sale of school land—

"(i) except as provided in clause (ii), shall be deposited in the public school permanent endowment fund and expended only for the support of public schools; and

"(ii) (I) may be deposited in a land bank fund to be used to acquire, in accordance with State law, other land in the State for the benefit of the beneficiaries of the public school permanent endowment fund; or

"(II) if the proceeds are not used to acquire other land in the State within a period specified by State law, shall be transferred to the public school permanent endowment fund.

"(B) EARNINGS RESERVE FUND.—Earnings on amounts in the public school permanent endowment fund shall be deposited in an earnings reserve fund to be used for the support of public schools of the State in accordance with State law.

"(b) LEASE.—Land granted under this Act for educational purposes may be leased in accordance with State law.

"(c) EXCHANGE.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Land granted for educational purposes under this Act may be exchanged for other public or private land.

"(2) VALUATION.—The values of exchanged lands shall be approximately equal, or, if the values are not approximately equal, the values shall be equalized by the payment of funds by the appropriate party.

"(3) EXCHANGES WITH THE UNITED STATES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A land exchange with the United States shall be limited to Federal land within the State that is subject to exchange under the law governing the administration of the Federal land.

"(B) PREVIOUS EXCHANGES.—All land exchanges made with the United States before the date of enactment of this paragraph are approved.

"(d) RESERVATION FOR SCHOOL PURPOSES.—Land granted for educational purposes, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, shall not be subject to preemption, homestead entry, or any other form of entry under the land laws of the United States, but shall be reserved for school purposes only."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that is very important to the State of Idaho. H.R. 4166, introduced by my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), would amend the Idaho Admissions Act regarding the sale or lease of school land.

Mr. Speaker, when Idaho was granted statehood back in 1890, the U.S. Government designated millions of acres of land within the State as an endowment to Idaho's schoolchildren. This was a common practice at the time, and

many other western States, including my own State of Utah, has similar provisions in their statehood act.

These State school lands are, by law, to be managed to provide revenue for the schools. When the lands are sold or leased or whatever, the money goes into a trust fund that produces a stream of income for the schools. This money is very important to the schoolchildren of Idaho.

The people of the State of Idaho have been working on ways to get more revenue from these lands and have found ways to ensure that their trust funds provide a better stream of income. Some of these reforms have been implemented. However, some cannot be implemented until we amend the Idaho Admissions Act to give them the authority to make these changes.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4166 would amend the Idaho Admissions Act to give the State of Idaho the flexibility they need to make these changes. The legislation is in everyone's best interest and is in particularly the best interest of Idaho's schoolchildren. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Utah, the chairman of our Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands of the Committee on Resources, for his management of this legislation, and certainly the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) for his sponsorship of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, as introduced by the gentleman from Idaho, would amend the Idaho Admissions Act to make certain changes regarding the sale and exchange or lease of lands granted to the State of Idaho for the benefit of schools.

The purpose of the exchanges, as I understand them, is to generate additional income for Idaho's permanent endowment fund. The State of Idaho has already modified State law in order to implement these changes; however, the Idaho Admissions Act must also be amended in order to conform to these changes.

Simple as that, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the author of the bill.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very important bill for Idaho, as has already been said, but it is an interesting opportunity. This is an opportunity for us to generate increased revenues for Idaho public schools, with no tax increase and